

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A container identification system comprising:

a fastener mechanism configured to extend for a length at least partially around an outer perimeter of a container; and

a flexible tag holder coupled to said fastener mechanism and comprising an outer surface and an inner surface, said inner surface defining a cavity within said tag holder, said cavity having a circumferential length that is less than the length of said fastener mechanism such that a pair of circumferentially spaced outer edges of said cavity are positionable substantially flush against an outer surface of the container when said container identification system is coupled to the container, said cavity sized to receive indicia therein for identifying the container.

2. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising an identification tag sized for insertion into said cavity, said identification tag configured to receive indicia thereon for identifying the container.

3. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 2 wherein said identification tag comprises an erasable outer surface.

4. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said erasable outer surface comprises a polypropylene coating.

5. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said tag holder is formed integrally with said fastener mechanism.

6. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising an attachment mechanism for coupling said tag holder to said fastener mechanism.

7. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said attachment mechanism comprises at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.

8. (original) A container identification system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a first end of said fastener mechanism is coupled to a second end of said fastener mechanism by an attachment mechanism that comprises at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.

9. (currently amended) A method of identifying a container, said method comprising:

coupling a container identification system including a flexible tag holder and a fastening mechanism to a container, such that the fastener mechanism extends for a length at least partially around an outer perimeter of the container, and wherein the tag holder has a circumferential length defined between a pair of circumferentially spaced edges that is shorter than the length of the fastening mechanism such that the cavity circumferentially spaced outer edges are positioned substantially flush against an outer surface of the container; and

coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that facilitates identifying the container.

10. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling an identification tag to the tag holder further comprises coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that includes an erasable outer surface.

11. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein coupling an identification tag to the tag holder further comprises coupling an identification tag to the tag holder that includes an erasable outer surface having a polypropylene coating.

12. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling a container identification system to a container further comprises coupling a container identification system that includes the tag holder integrally formed with the fastener mechanism to a container.

13. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling a container identification system to a container further comprises coupling an attachment mechanism to the tag holder and to the fastener mechanism.

14. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 13 wherein coupling an attachment mechanism to the tag holder and to the fastener mechanism further comprises coupling an attachment mechanism having at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip to the tag holder and to the fastener mechanism.

15. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein coupling a container identification system to a container further comprises coupling a first end of the fastener mechanism to a second end of the fastener mechanism by an attachment mechanism that includes at least one of a mechanical fastening device, an interlocking device, a hook and pile fastener, a hook and loop fastener, a tab and slot device, a locking mechanism, a magnet, a tying system, and a clip.